

Current Events

The republicans national convention met on Tuesday last, and was called to order by Chairman Jones of the national committee in a speech of some length, in which he pleaded for a continuance of a war tariff, after fighting the war to a finish, of course, John M. Thurston, M. C. of Kansas was made temporary chairman. As Thurston was named Osborne of Kansas entered a protest, the Kansas delegation, "declining to become responsible, etc." They regard it as a very great mistake. But Osborne was hissed down.

But why object to Thurston, since he is a good parliamentarian, a brilliant speaker, and had seconded Layan's nomination in 1884? Simply because he is a paid agent of the U. P. road to "protect" their interests in Congress and in state legislatures, as the Pacific Railway investigation disclosed, although Mr. Thurston himself was so active in his movements that the investigating Commission were never able to serve him with a subpoena to get his testimony. Thurston's record as disclosed, however, makes a very readable, though not edifying, chapter of the history of railroad lobbying, he having been, as one witness testified, "in charge of the 'oil room,' where members of the legislature were lubricated." That is probably why Osborne objected to his occupying the chair of a great moral show like the national republican convention; but then, Osborne is not a part of the machine.

Mr. Thurston's speech was remarkable for nothing except that he saw in the democratic platform a "straddle" of the tariff question; and that Blaine must be taken at his word, and not nominated. Still, it was soothing to the excited nerves of the convention.

During the first day John C. Fremont was introduced who predicted, of course, republican success in November. Fred Douglas was called on and pitched into the "secesh," of course.

Wednesday's session was devoted to speeches, the adoption of rules, and the contest in delegations, particularly those in Virginia. After a long and better struggle, Mahone and the Wise delegates won. The permanent organization was affected in the morning before the committee on credentials had reported, Mr. H. M. Estee of California, being made permanent chairman.

On Thursday the platform was adopted. After a tribute to Lincoln and the great deed of the party, and to Sheridan living, a greeting to Brazil on the recent emancipation of the slaves, and "reaffirming unswerving devotion to the constitution" and a "free ballot and fair count," it plunges in *medias res* by a high tariff plank, with free whiskey "on the side," as follows:

"We are uncompromisingly in favor of the American system of protection. We protest against its destruction proposed by the President and his party. They serve the interests of Europe; we will support the interests of America. We accept the issue and confidently appeal to the people for their judgment. The protective system must be maintained. Its abandonment has always been followed by general disaster to all interests except those of the usurper and the sheriff. We denounce the Mills bill as destructive to general business, the labor and the farming interests of the country, and we heartily endorse the consistent and patriotic action of the Republican Representatives in Congress in opposing its passage.

"We condemn the proposition of the Democratic party to place wool on the free list, and we insist that the duties thereon shall be adjusted and maintained so as to furnish full and adequate protection to that industry.

"The Republican party would effect all needed reduction of the national revenue by repealing the taxes on tobacco, which are an annoyance and burden to agriculture, and the tax upon spirits used in the arts and for mechanical purposes; and by such revision of the tariff laws as will tend to check imports of such articles as are produced by our people, the production of which gives employment to our labor, and release from import duties those articles of foreign production (except luxuries) the like of which cannot be produced at home. If there shall still remain a larger revenue than is requisite for the wants of the government, we favor the entire repeal of internal taxes, rather than the surrender of any part of our protective system at the joint behest of the whiskey trusts and the agents of foreign manufacturers."

It then denounces Chinese immigration and trusts; demands that the public lands be reserved for settlers and that the territory be admitted to the Union; promises to stamp out polygamy; wants bimetalism and one cent postage; wants state and national aid for free schools and the "rehabilitation" of the merchant marine; "arraigns" the administration, fires a shot at the mugwumps, and wants more and larger pensions paid.

The platform having been adopted the roll of States was called for the naming of candidates. On the call, California passed for the present; Illinois, through Leonard Sweet, presented Gresham, seconded by Lynch of Mississippi; Indiana, by Gov. Porter, presented Harrison; Iowa, by Hepburn, named Allison; Michigan, by Frazier, Alger; New York, by Senator Hancock, Depew; Ohio, by Gen. Hastings of Penn. named Sherman; and Wisconsin, by Senator Spooner, presented Rusk. After which the convention adjourned until 11 a. m. yesterday.

Yesterday was given up to balloting. The session began at 11:28 and lasted until about three o'clock, when an adjournment was had until 7 o'clock last evening. The ballots taken during the morning session were as follows:

Gresham	114	108	123
Sherman	229	249	244
Alger	84	126	122
Allison	72	75	88
Harrison	79	95	94
Depew	99	99	90
Rusk	20	25	16
Hawley	13		
Blaine	24		
Frazier	32	32	35
Lincoln	4	3	
Phelps	25	18	5
Ingalls	28	16	
McKinley	2	3	8

The night session was very short. After the call to order, Depew's name was withdrawn, whereupon the convention adjourned, without taking a ballot, until 10 o'clock this morning. A telegram announced that New York's vote would go to Harrison; in which case one might hazard the guess that Blaine and Harrison may be the ticket.

Gen. Sheridan is improving daily and his recovery is now deemed possible. The town of Dubois, Pa., was almost entirely burned on Monday last. The loss is placed at about a million. A large number of persons were injured during the fire. There is much suffering by the homeless and homeless.

The report again comes from Zanibar that Stanley is dead—killed by native slave traders whose business he had interfered with.

The Sunday civil service bill reported to the house Saturday appropriates \$23,714, 798, being \$9,881,278 less than the regular and special estimates.

In reply to the Pittsburgh Iron manufacturers' demand for a reduction of wages, the men demand a shut down for three months to let prices advance, and these manufacturers object, but have not yet absolutely refused to adopt this proposal. The Princeton *Republican*, Aurora *Evening*, Mendota *Bulletin*, Marquette *Register*, et al. *come* *genus* which publishes the Home Market Club's editorials on the "bugaboo" of over production might take this contest and proposal of the workmen as a text for an original editorial of their own on the subject of over-production. The Harbinger, Pa. mills have also shut down owing to "stagnation."

THE BIG CHICAGO CONVENTION.

At the present writing, before it is possible to know anything definite as to the main outcome of this last (and likely forever to remain the last) grand gathering of the Republican clans to choose a leader for the pending presidential campaign, we can only catch up minor incidents as straws indicating the general direction of the wind.

And first, as worthy of note in this connection, is the attitude of Chicago itself (or rather the Republican half of it) towards the big convention. At the meeting of the National Republican Committee in Washington last winter, to fix the time and place of holding this convention, it was certainly understood among all the cities contesting for the selection, that in which ever succeeded, the delegates to the convention should meet on free and equal footing, be treated with the same courtesy, and the same respect and fair show should be accorded to all the candidates alike whose names might be presented for consideration. Instead of any such courteous bearing, Chicago Republicanism has set up a candidate of its own, whose cause the whole local party, like a huge organized mob, with the unanimous Republican press of the city in the lead, is booming with a pertinacity and din as noisy and insolent as it is supremely indecent. The manner of it alone ought to kill off Gresham's boom, though it possessed the proverbial vitality of the tom cat.

In the proceedings of the convention the first incident worthy of especial note was the action in reference to the Virginia delegates. Mahone, it is needless to say, is the head and front, the embodiment and brains of the Republican party of Virginia. Nineteenth of the party in that State as indisputably accept his leadership and obey his behests as the Republicans of Illinois would those of Logan were he alive. Yet because the Mahone Republicans failed to observe to its last punctilio to the directions of the national committee in selecting their delegates to the Chicago convention, a little faction of professed Virginia Republicans, headed by a son of Henry A. Wise, the Governor who hanged John Brown, held back from the caucus in the different congressional districts and sent to the convention a set of delegates in opposition to those selected by the regular organization. And the convention has admitted these delegates! The meaning of it is, that the Mahone delegates were for Sherman, while the Wise delegates were temptingly non-committal. The vote of about 500 to 300 in favor of the Wise delegates was, therefore, a fair indication of the strength of Sherman in the convention against the field. As the kick dealt to Mahone and his friends is admitted to relegate Virginia beyond all hope back to the solid south, the result is probably the first instance on record where the majority of a great national convention was stupid enough to sacrifice success in a State, if not indeed in the whole Union, to manifest its hostility in advance to a particular candidate whose claims they are asked to pass upon.

When it came to mustering the candidates, nine names were presented: Hawley of Conn., Gresham and Harrison of Ind., Allison of Iowa, Alger of Michigan, Sherman of Ohio, Depew of New York, Fitzer of Pennsylvania, and Rusk of Wisconsin. The nominating speeches are admitted to have been exceptionally tame all around, that of Fowler for Sherman alone eliciting hearty applause, which, however, was rather for Fowler than Sherman. California asked to be passed when called upon to name its candidate, reserving the right to name him afterwards. Of course that means at the opportune moment to spring on the convention the name of Blaine, to whom the Californians are enthusiastically devoted.

The only other stage in the proceedings thus far here to be noted, is the adoption of the platform. It is a rather long, windy, ad ostantum pronouncement, but the essence of it is embodied in the pregnant expression on the subject of the tariff, found elsewhere.

There is no mistaking this language. Hitherto the Republican party in its conventions has had the decency, at least, to utter a few generalities in favor of the removal of obvious and glaring abuses in the tariff; but here there is no such pretence. The party takes advanced ground, and plants itself squarely on protection for the sake of protection alone. Every industry in the country, in which large American capital can be employed, is invited to organize itself into a huge trust, with immunity insured in advance from all foreign competition, and these trusts can regulate with mathematical precision the exact amount of production that will insure a certain

profit to the capital invested; and lest labor may have the impudence to claim a share of the profits thus insured to capital, free trade in labor is carefully reserved to the bosses, so that there can be no interference with sure profits from that quarter. If it is impossible to keep down the surplus revenue by adhering to this scheme, then we prefer, says the convention, to give the people free nicotine and whisky rather than endanger the profits of the iron, wool and cotton lords! A more infernally adroit scheme to rob the 18,000,000 of workmen of this country engaged in non-protectable industries for the benefit of 1,000,000 of protected money lords, human ingenuity, greed, and impudence heretofore had never dared to propose. Oh! won't it be a luxury, when our boys get fairly to work on the stump, to show up in all its hideousness this monstrous scheme of "wholesale, cruel robbery!"

The national republican convention at Chicago was a great gathering of men, Chicago probably never saw more strangers within her gates. As a spectacle, it was imposing—grand, as every great gathering of humanity is. It was a representative body also of the "outs" seeking to become the "ins." As the nominating convention of a great party, aside from the vastness of the multitude of men, it did not reach any grandeur. The absence of broad discussion of principle was very marked, the proceedings, aside from generalities favoring a continuance of the war tariff, degenerating to the level of campaign meetings in a bummer ward, where the speeches are made to "split the ears of the groundlings" and pamper to the taste of the pugilistic and hit-a-head when you can see one spirit found in all such meetings. Foraker can stand up in this great convention and say the President of the United States is not a gentleman and be applauded, but a republican national convention is probably the only organized body in the world where the words would be permitted to pass with out a hiss. That the convention spent two days of its time in applauding "bummerism" of this sort, shows that the party has ceased to be a progressive force; that it is reduced to the condition of a mere protest. The only decided utterances were in condemnation of the President's tariff views, in which the speakers directly antagonized the recommendations of the party's own Presidents and chief executive officers before Cleveland and the recommendations of its self appointed tariff commission of 1883—even its own legislative acts in 1883, when the party at least pretended to reform, by reducing the tariff taxes. Now, however, that a democrat recommends the same thing, behold, a protest! Like Rev. Jasper's "De sun do move"—the protest of Pacific railroad debt repudiators, the trust monopolists and the "outs." The platform itself is but an "objection." Where it does not follow the democratic document it merely enters a protest that the democrats have done something or want to do something. As Gov. Hill aptly said: "The republicans are in favor of tariff reform—some other year. They want to reduce taxes—whenever they, and they alone, can secure the credit for it. They want to strengthen the coast defenses of the country—when they return to power. They are the boldest champions of civil service reform—when they are out of power."

PULPIT POLITICS.

There is, perhaps, no reason for it, but, as a rule, men will get vexed when ministers of the gospel take a hand in politics. While the "devil goeth about like a roaring lion," &c., there is always plenty of work for the clergy to do, without bothering with politics; and it is generally conceded that it is in bad taste for the man in the pulpit to step down from his place into the forum of politics, not to say more as to the probable effect on his congregation which is composed of men of all political beliefs.

The republican convention and the Gresham boomlet, however, have brought three Chicago ministers to the front, and in laying aside the clerical vestments, they proclaim themselves very much the same kind of men as the general herd of politicians: narrowminded, sectional, uncharitable, untruthful. The first hides himself from the world by the omission of a signature to his effusion in the *Enter Occident*; and but for the fact that the *Occident* says the author is a "clergyman" one would never suppose that the utterance of such blatherdash as that President Cleveland has "been making history" for the last four years in "wretched ignorance and treasonable malice." The words are not clerical; they are not true, and are more venomous than a plous christian should make use of.

Then Professor Swing shies his castor into the ring, by a plea for "let well enough alone." In the *Chicago Journal*, he says the laborer "now has the \$2 a day and must be contented with it 40 years ago," therefore, "let well enough alone." Not stopping to argue the truth of this assertion, another quotation shows the professor's aim: the perpetration of a war tariff. He says the bearings of the tariff are "wholly unintelligible," and that it is "brought into the foreground in order to conceal the emptiness of the coming campaign as to large ideas," which "large ideas" are the restriction of immigration; the building a great waterways; &c. He says:

In the present condition of the labor market, when, though wages are high, there is not work for all, the treasury at Washington should not curtail its income but it should employ labor in making all such improvements as would add to the national greatness.

That is, keep on raising war taxes to squander on public works of questionable utility—"improvements" of worthless creeks and building public buildings;

bringing the people to improvidence by a share of the swag; holding out a constant, neverending temptation to public thieves and jobbers; stifling the self-reliance of the people by teaching them to look to the government for everything,—giving aid and comfort to the hordes of lobbyists and applauding congressional spendthrifts of other peoples' money.—In a word, debauching the people by largesses instead of encouraging them to self-exertion and self dependence. This is queer morality for a preacher.

Last of all comes Dr. Thomas in a sermon on Sunday, reported in the *Times* discussing general principles with a liberality and breadth of view that is in striking contrast to Prof. Swing and the "anon" of the *Occident*. On the issues of the "tariff and related social and economic questions of labor," &c., he does not pretend to be authority; but says, "We are agreed that a war tariff was necessary, and not less agreed that a tax that results in \$90,000,000 annually is now excessive, and that it is not economy for a country to carry along an idle surplus of \$125,000,000." This is more hopeful. It is not sinking the issue into the slough of falsehood, for he says, as all honest men will admit, with all truthfulness, that—"The question of absolute free trade is not an issue now by any party." The issue is the reduction of taxation and a statesmanlike handling of the surplus. It is a great question. But it is one that comes within the limit of pulpit teaching only in its moral aspects, as Bishop Spaulding recently discussed it. There brother Swing can find a theme worthy of his pen; but he must attack it as a preacher and a moralist, and not as a hack-writer for hire on a high tariff newspaper.

Now, if it had happened south of Mason and Dixon's line, the shooting of Wm. Lee at Springfield, on Tuesday last, would be the text for a national convention speech. Wm. Lee is a colored democrat; a quiet, inoffensive young fellow, as the reports say, whose only offense, as he believed, was the fact that he was a Palmer democrat, a delegate to the Clubs' convention of last week, and a reporter on a colored democratic paper,—a procedure and a business not satisfactory to his neighbors, colored republicans. The reports further say that the colored democrats fear a plot by colored republicans to do them bodily injury for their opinions' sake, and have asked permission to defend themselves! Indeed, the report from Springfield of this outrage reads just like one of Halstead's southern spasms, with the politics reversed. We have not seen it alluded to, however, in republican papers in double headed editorials as yet. The Chicago convention has doubtless looked it into the back ground, and one must crowd it for later.

We favor the entire repeal of internal taxes rather than surrender any part of our protective system.—*Rep. Platform*.

In the language of the republican *Tri-bune*, "These grasping, hogish persons are mainly to be found in Pennsylvania and east of Indiana. . . . They are the advocates of the rubber-trust tariff system. . . . What they want is to get their hands into other people's pockets and transfer the contents to their own. This they dub protection to American industry; but it does not protect . . . the industry of the farmers, who have to sell at free trade prices." Will the *Tribune* now claim that Illinois can be carried next fall on that issue? or will it have the audacity now to support the Chicago platform, when it knows, for it said in March last, that: "There are no protected farmers—the whole thirty millions are bled to fill protected millionaires," and that the republican party now exists for the sole and only purpose of aiding and abetting those same "protected millionaires?"

Chas. A. Works of Rockford, for a short time deputy circuit clerk of this county under Holmes, now prosecuting attorney of Winnebago county, made himself famous at Chicago, on Wednesday, by presenting the chairman with a gavel made from the wood of Gen. Grant's old desk at Galena, accompanying the gift by some facetious remarks about tanning democrats there-with. Chawles has got to be a great politician of late; but his missionary work in this county was quite disastrous: after about one year of Charley's efforts here, the county went democratic, with the majorities growing safer every year succeeding.

The republicans having been prevented by a democratic house from giving away all the public lands to railroads, are now very solicitous for the rights of the settler! It being a tender point, they of course deny that the democrats have recovered any of those lands so lavishly granted; but the records of the land office show that during Cleveland's administration the democrats have restored to the public domain at least 80,000,000 of acres of lands unearned by the railroads.

Miss Debar, the famous, or infamous, New York spiritualist, has been sent to Blackwell's Island penitentiary for swindling. Spiritualism may be a science or a religion or a philosophy, as men may think; that question was not raised on Debar's trial; but that trial, and the escapades of many of the "school" of late days, suggest the thought that the spirits who come back to earth have a most unhappy faculty of getting into awfully bad company sometimes.

If free trade was established as democrats propose there would be at least three years of ceaseless labor troubles.—*Streator Free Press*. For about a minute try to be honest, and say, on your honor, if you have anywhere found the democrats advocating free trade. They advocate tariff reform—just what the *Free Press* said, two months ago, the republican party must do.

Personal.

Mc—Mrs. McClellan, of Chicago, is visiting her father, Andrew Lynch, Esq. Her husband and Thos. Lynch are now in Colorado. Dow—E. A. Dow of Plymouth, Wis., was in town on Tuesday.

Mc—John McElroy of Pittsburgh was in town on Wednesday. He was formerly chief of the Pittsburgh fire department, and wears decorations for heroic conduct as a fireman.

Ed.—Ed. Eldridge is home enjoying his sophomore vacation.

Baxos.—Miss Libbie Baxos is home from Florida.

Cy.—Cyrus Leland of Eldorado, Kas., is in town this week.

Jim.—James Kelley, of Wichita, Kan., is in the city for a few days.

Dent.—Mrs. Dent, of Denver, is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cheever, on the west side.

Chap.—Mrs. Fred Chapman, nee Miss Anna O'Mera, of Kansas City, is the guest of her mother for a week or two.

Bod.—H. M. Bodwell, wife and child, of Wichita, Kan., are in town this week.

Kas.—L. B. Watson, well known by old citizens, as an Ottawa boy, now proprietor of the Arlington House, Dodge City, Kan., is in town this week.

Spencer.—Thomas Spencer, of Pittsburg, Pa., was in town this week, on his way home from Wichita, Kan., the home of his son George.

Chi.—John Bailey is in Chicago.

Ret.—Miss Mary Stevenson has returned from her two weeks visit in Chicago.

Hutch.—Mrs. Ed. Vogt, of Hutchinson, Kansas, is the guest of former neighbors.

Jack.—Hon. "Jack" Flavin, the silver tongued is now the conductor of a regular passenger on the I V & N.

Vis.—Miss Josie Griffin, of Utica, is the guest of Mrs. Charles Phelps.

Kelly.—Miss Kelly, of Chicago, is the guest of Miss Minnie Bailey.

Pa.—Esquie Larkin is in Pittsburg.

Capit.—Mrs. Peter Egan and Mrs. James Dwyre have returned from Springfield.

Howe.—Byron Howe, of Cloud Co., Kansas, is visiting his father, J. B. Howe. He reports plenty of rain and crops unusually good.

Vac.—Charles Klink, the west side mail carrier, is having his vacation.

Ret.—John Bastien, who did the Yosemite Valley last week, is home again.

Chi.—Mrs. John Scheying is the guest of friends in Chicago.

Globe.—Mr. Ludwig, of the staff of the *Chicago Globe*, is in town this week, working up a list and "writing" the town.

Vis.—Misses Ella and Emma Shafer returned from Streator, where they were the guests of Miss Pilcher, on Thursday.

Dtn.—Hon. Alex. Vaughney, of Seneca, has been elected county delegate of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the highest office in the gift of the order in the county. The order has a membership of one thousand in the county, with twelve divisions.

Wich.—Mrs. Cal. D. Phillips, of Wichita, Kansas, is the guest of friends in the city for a few days.

Gorbet.—Horace Gorbet, formerly of Ottawa, but for several years past with the firm of Lilly, McDonald & Rockett, trunk manufacturers, Cleveland, O., has been in Ottawa, the past week with his relatives.

But.—The pupils of Dayton school presented teacher Albor. Butters a pair of elegant gold cuff buttons on Friday, their closing day.

Leslie.—Prof. J. O. Leslie, of the Peoria high school has been selected to fill the principalship of the high school for the ensuing year. He is a graduate of Princeton high school, and of Oberlin college, and has spent six years as assistant principal of the Peoria high school. He comes highly recommended by the best educational authorities in the state, as a thorough scholar, a most excellent teacher, and a solid substantial worker.

Geo.—George Penney is home from Cornell University at Ithaca, N. Y., and has assumed the management of the books at Manley & Jordans.

Here.—Will H. Phillips formerly of Phillips Bros., now of Eureka, Kan., is in town for a few days.

Wm.—Miss Sallie Parr attended the wedding of her friend, Miss Potter to Mr. Norris, at Englewood on Tuesday evening.

The K. of P's.

Eighteen of the Uniformed Rank Knights of Pythias attended the great convocate at Cincinnati last week, leaving this city over the Rock Island, Seneca and Kankakee, and the Cincinnati road, on Tuesday morning, and arriving in the city of pork and high water pants at eventide.

There was little of moment on the way to disturb the even monotony of the Kankakee and Seneca road, excepting the loss of the big four, or the losing of the train by the big four, it is hard to determine which. These gentlemen, Messrs. Nitschelm, Zickler, Alshuler and Dwyer, had jumped off the train to play leap frog, and soon became so enraptured with the sport that the lapse of time was not noticed. Presently Alshuler gazed down the track.

"Boys!" he exclaimed, "We've lost the train!"

"Ow, wow!" chronicled the three, "Our coats, swords and hats are on board, and we have committed our cold tea to our traveling cases!"

And the big four set down by the fence in despair, but presently the train was seen coming around the bend two miles below, and an hour and a half later they were on board and happy.

At Cincinnati the delegation was met at the depot and escorted to its hotel, where the best of everything was at hand. They took part in the great parade on Wednesday afternoon when there were thirty thousand Knights in line, taking three hours to pass the reviewing stand of the grand officers.

Sir Knight Trenary commanded one of the regiments of the line.

Across the street from their hotel was a beautiful ice cream and milk shake palace known as the Rhine, where the boys drank their milk shake two times a day. At least they say it was milk shake, as it had a foam on it just like milk or some other shake.

A New York Horse Thief.

William Brown, arrested by McIntyre of Mendota, and lodged in the county jail on Jan. 12th for horse stealing, and now serving out his six month's sentence in the jail, was identified on Wednesday morning by James Mulligan, a saloon and livery stable keeper of Utica, N. Y., as Joe Burns, the man who hired a rig from his stables on August 15th, 1887, and failed to return.

Immediately after the loss of his horse, Mr. Mulligan began searching all through the east in quest of the thief, and passed him on several occasions in the city of Troy, N. Y. During the search he unearthed a clue to the gang and followed it out, discovered Brown was either the tool or leader of a gang of three, all living at or near South Adams, Mass., and belonging to wealthy and highly respected families. Burns ran the horses off, and the others found a market for the goods, keeping them in pasture until sold. The buggies and harness stolen were repainted and taken to the homes of the thieves, who led their parents to believe they had purchased them. The gang stole in all seven horses in New York and Massachusetts, one in Stillwater and another in Fort Edwards, N. Y., with two in South Adams, Mass., being among the number.

Mr. Mulligan gained knowledge of his whereabouts through a paper in Schenectady, N. Y., and says that the horse stolen from him, with the rig, was worth \$325, and that the other horses were also valuable.

Ratified F. & B.

The public, or as much of it as chanced to be upon the streets on Thursday evening, was considerably surprised to see a brass band, a drum corps and a dozen or fifteen torch bearers, firing Roman candles, and howling for some one or something or other, know one seemed to know who or what, on the march up to Washington Park. On investigation, it was learned, from republican sources, that the procession was of the "hired minions" of prohibition, on their way to ratify the cold water nomination. The platform was carried aloft by a small boy. The crowd of prohibitionists was not large, but the anxious republicans who take milk-shakes with trimmings, sitting on the balcony circle of the Park auditorium made up quite a respectable attendance of anxious spectators at least. Mr. Kennedy of Chicago was the orator, who spoke against license of any kind, high or low. Judge Kilburn also offered a few thoughts, and there were loud cries for the new leader of the party hereabouts, Fowler, the Chase, but he didn't show up.

Drown White Bathing.

Victor Kummer, a boy of about ten or twelve years of age, went down to the Hydraulic basin on Thursday morning attracted by the presence of two small boys who were fishing. He requested them to go into the water to bathe, and as they did not wish to do so, he disrobed and prepared to take a "header" from a spring-board erected by large bathers for that purpose. Taking a good start, he ran out on the board and jumped in, but failed to rise again to the surface. One of the employees of the Fire Proof Construction Co., seeing him dive waited for him to come up, but as he did not appear, became alarmed and hallooed that a boy was drowning.

Will Barker, the rough but big hearted rescuer of many drowning ones was on hand in a few moments with grappling hooks, and with the assistance of Esterline of the gas works, dragged the canal for an hour, finding the body in the rear of J. N. Shuler's warehouse, near the spot where it went down. An eager and cruelly curious crowd gathered about the poor little nude form, but none could recognize him or place him among the thousands of boys of the city, and it was not until the grief stricken parents of the poor lad missed him at meal time that he was identified. A purse was raised for Barker who richly deserves a gold medal from the county of La Salle for the many whom he has taken from watery graves.

A Duck Pond.

At last! In her onward march toward the goal of glory, Ottawa has advanced a pace and boasts an artificial duck pond right in the heart of the city, east of the grand and glorious court street gutter around the court house, and in plain view of that temple of Justice. It is on Court street. The gutter around the court house is responsible for it. Before there was a gutter there the water quietly soaked away, and said nothing about it. But now it absolutely refuses to run up hill and absolutely insists upon remaining in the middle of the road.

Indeed the city might turn Court street into a series of artificial lakes, and advertise it as a summer resort.

However, to settle the question, the FREE TRADER man interviewed County Surveyor Wilson, who says that she gutters and walks were laid according to the grade established for walks and gutters on the east side of La Salle street, and that they are going to stay there whether school keeps or not.

Wow!

Twelve Hundred Dollar Loss. Sunday evening Stephen Butler and a friend seated upon the steps of D. Sanderson's market, in conversation, when the smell of burning wood moved them to investigate. Smoke was seen issuing in front of Maher & Butler's door, and a closer investigation by Mr. Butler proved that it was coming from the window of the cellar. He opened the back door of the store and began to investigate, but at first there was no sign